

DPW Commission Meeting
Wednesday, February 10, 2016
7:00 p.m. – Police Station Community Room

Meeting called to order at 7:06

Commissioner Gardner was not present, Chairman Sena and Commissioner Reed were present as well as Director Parisi and Asst. Director Olson.

7:00 PM Approval Items:

Board of Commissioners Minutes Approval – postponed to next meeting

Approval of Sale of Cemetery Lots - none

7:05 PM Open Session:

Open for Public Discussion with the Commissioners:

- Diane Cartright and Jan Breiter were present from the Ad Hoc Water Committee to get input on how their committee might be able to assist the DPW. She said two weeks ago Jim Gardner was at one of their meetings. J. Gardner had indicated that two things he could think of were: 1) analysis of land that might be near water supply that might be for sale that we might want the town to purchase to protect the water supply, 2) aging infrastructures. Director Parisi said we could put this on an upcoming agenda. J. Parisi said maybe they could do some work on promoting water conservation devices, etc. Commissioner Reed said he would like some time to think about this.
- T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, said he was told that with help from E. Hutchins the Open Space Committee sent out letters to owners about purchasing land in the water shed and they received no responses; that was over the last 18 months. One land owner was missed; that land would have been insignificant.
- T. Arsenian said at town hall today; he spoke to Gary LeBlanc about curb cuts, he said that there are no objective standards. Director Parisi said we receive requests for curb cuts, we take a look at it, one concern is does this eliminate any parking spaces. Objective standards for curb cuts could be on a future agenda.
- Z. Seppala, Granite Street, said salters come out during a storm; they appear to hurl the sand out of the back in a large radius. He asked if the “spinners” are adjustable. Director Parisi said he believes they can be adjusted but maybe not in the middle of an event.

7:10 PM New Business:

MBTA Station Electric Upgrades Project: J. Parisi said we had some utility plans, the substation is in the same location; the parking configuration will change. We have the drainage plans. Chairman Sena said the town doesn't have much to say about this because it's MBTA property. E. Hutchins said he understands that there isn't a lot of local jurisdiction on this. Paving is part of this project; this is a significant project. The DPW is responsible for storm water; this involves the Board of Health, the Conservation Commission, etc. He said we should be looking for an analysis, so the public can have a chance to see. He is asking that the DPW request that review.

Green Community Task Force Presentation: Commissioner Reed said the Task Force has been working towards certification to obtain grants and deal with reducing energy use in the community. At the April Town Meeting

there will be some articles, then between April and October we will be preparing an application to DoER and an energy resources reduction plan.

1. Specify zoning for alternative/renewable energy: identified an overlay zoning district, new zoning by-law to address solar facilities, Planning Board hearing on 3/3/16, an Article will be proposed for town meeting.
2. Streamline permitting, so perhaps the permitting process could be accomplished within one year
3. Reduce municipal energy consumption by 20% over five years, select energy consulting firm to conduct energy audit, develop energy reduction plan to reduce 20% of energy, recommend options to the Board of Selectmen, then work with the Commonwealth of Mass. and National Grid toward meeting the target. The town facilities use 23% of the total town's energy and the schools use 35%; street lighting is 2% of the total.
4. Purchase energy efficient vehicles, letter must be signed by the Board of Selectmen, there is a 29 miles/gallon requirement for sedans, and pick-up trucks have a different minimum.
5. Reduce life-cycle energy costs for construction (stretch code) to bring building code up to current standards.

If we cut energy use by 20% that is approximately a \$400,000 savings; there is a \$145,000 initial grant, \$126,000 is the average amount of competitive grants. Total street lighting is 2% of the total; they are still identifying the high users in town. A Planning Board meeting is planned for March 3, 2016.

Toby Arsenian, spoke about the stretch code, he is concerned that if the town signs on for the stretch code, when this is presented at town meeting, when the terms are shifted by the state he would like the town to have the option of opting out.

T. Mikus said there is no obligation to have a solar project.

Schedule Public Hearing on Sticker Fees: Transfer Station and beach stickers will be available on-line by April 1 and at Town Hall later on. The public hearing will be scheduled for Wed., Feb 24, 2016 at 7pm. Director Parisi will bring information on the number of on-line sales from last year. Commissioner Reed would like information on the bulk revenue. He said he believes the Transfer Station should be an Enterprise fund. J. Parisi said it's too late this year to discuss this; but it could be discussed and reviewed now for subsequent years.

8:00 PM Ongoing Business:

FY17 Budget Review: Director Parisi distributed a copy of the budget submission to the Finance Committee. The requested increase for the Community House Building Manager was not approved; it will be go to the Personnel Board for review. Heating oil, vehicle fuel, and other utilities were reduced because the actual costs have gone down. J. Parisi said he is always concerned about having sufficient funds for vehicle repairs and maintenance. Snow and ice expenses were increased to be more close to actual anticipated costs. The park time clerk position in the DPW office was eliminated (approx. \$13,000); the total budget is \$31,145 less than the DPW requested. T. Arsenian said the part time position shouldn't be eliminated.

FY17 Capital Requests: the majority of requested items were approved.

8:15 PM Ongoing Capital Projects

DPW Facility Design Development Project: A 2/16/16 public presentation is planned at the library; this will be announced in the Gloucester Times. There will be a site visit (maybe a Saturday for residents to view/tour the existing bldg.) A mass e-mail will go out to all town committees to get the word out.

Pigeon Cove Storm Damage Repair Project: is going well, they are working on the outer breakwater, March will be the Harbor seawall. We are beginning to hear from FEMA, there are three project worksheets, getting the smallest one first, the upper breakwater is the second.

Granite Pier Storm Damage Repair Project: 95% completed, the severe damage is on tip from last January.

Back Beach Revetment Damage Repair Project: T. Olson has the contract on his desk, he is reviewing it then getting it to the Town Administrator for signature then can bid it out by Memorial Day; cost is \$533,000.

8:25 PM Other Issues of Discussion

Next Meetings: 2/16/16 DPW facility presentation at the library, 2/24/16 next DPW meeting and sticker hearing

8:30 PM Commissioner Reed moved to adjourn, seconded by Chairman Sena, Vote: 2-0.

Tickler List:

Cell tower lease funds
Green Communities/Energy efficiency
Sewer use regulations
Transfer Station Redesign
DPW Facility
Plowing of Private Roads
Paving Plan
FaceBook Discussion